# National Dropout Prevention Center

#### FIFTEEN EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES

## 1. Systemic Renewal

A continuing process of evaluating goals and objectives will provide an organizational structure that allows each school to develop a learning environment which ensures quality education for all students.

#### 2. Professional Development

Teachers who work with at-risk youth need to feel supported and need to have an avenue by which they continue to develop skills, techniques, and learn about innovative strategies.

#### 3. Early Childhood Education

The most effective way to reduce the number of children who will ultimately drop out is to provide the best possible classroom instruction from the beginning of their school experience.

## 4. Alternative Schooling

Alternative schools today are designed to provide an alternative to dropping out of school, with special attention to the student's individual social needs and the academic requirements for a high school diploma. Alternative schools exist at all levels of K-12

## 5. Instructional Technologies

Technology offers some of the best opportunities for delivering instruction which engages students in authentic learning, addresses multiple intelligences, and adapts to students' learning styles.

## 6. Service Learning

This strategy combines community service with learning activities and is characterized by integrating the academic curriculum with a structured time for organized service experiences that meet actual community needs.

#### 7. Conflict Resolution

Students who don't feel safe at school will not want to stay in school. Dealing with conflict constructively is a skill that when adopted into a school's culture will provide a safe environment for learning.

## 8. Out Of School Experiences

Since learning happens all day long, 365 days a year, many schools are providing afterschool and summer enhancement programs designed to eliminate information loss, inspire interest in a variety of areas, and expand the knowledge base.

## 9. Community Collaboration

When all groups in a community provide collective support to the school, an infrastructure is created that provides a caring supportive environment where youth can thrive and achieve

## 10. Family Involvement

Research consistently finds that family involvement has a direct, positive effect on children's achievement and is the most accurate predictor of a student's success in school.

#### 11. Reading And Writing Program

Early interventions to help low-achieving students recognize that focusing on reading and writing skills is the foundation for effective learning in all other subjects.

#### 12. Individualized Instruction

A customized individual program allows at-risk students flexibility with the curriculum. It is a strategy that focuses on a one-to-one learning environment.

# 13. Mentoring/Tutoring

Mentoring is a one-to-one caring, supportive relationship between a mentor and a mentee that is based on trust.

# 14. Learning Style/Multiple Intelligences

When educators show students that there are different ways to learn, students find new and creative ways to solve problems, achieve success, and become lifelong learners. When educators use multiple intelligences and learning styles to teach the curriculum, they find more students achieve success.

#### 15. Career Education/Workforce Readiness

Workforce readiness programs recognize that youth need specific skills to prepare them to measure up to the larger demands of today's workplace.